TIN CAN ANNIVERSARY

The 150th anniversary of the "tin can" will be celebrated in 1960, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The well-known metal container for food and many other items was invented in 1810 by an Englishman named Peter Durand. The Can Manufacturing Institute is promoting a world-wide celebration of this anniversary and will stress the role of the can in getting food distributed to the four corners of the world.

POULTRY INSPECTION REGULATIONS AMENDED

The USDA recently announced amendments to the "Regulations Governing the Inspection of Poultry and Poultry Products." The purpose of these amendments is to help minimize the amount of moisture absorbed by poultry carcasses during processing and chilling. The amendments will become effective January 1, 1960. Copies of the amended regulations are being sent to processing plants operating under the inspection program. The amendments were scheduled for publication in the December 1 issue of the Federal Register.

COTTON GINNINGS

Cotton ginned in the United States prior to November 14 this season totaled 11.6 million bales, compared with 8.9 million bales a year earlier, points out the Bureau of the Census. Upland cotton ginned averaged somewhat lower in grade but slightly longer in staple than a year ago.

42 STATES USING EARTAG PLAN FOR CATTLE

Since the uniform eartag number plan for cattle was initiated in 1955, a total of 42 states has adopted it for use in cooperative Federal-State animal disease eradication programs, according to the USDA. In addition, two national herd-improvement associations - the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and the National Association of Artificial Breeders - are using the plan on member herds in all 50 states. The uniform eartag system helps to eliminate the confusion previously caused by the use of different types of identifying markers in herd-improvement or disease-control programs.

WORLD BARLEY AND OAT CROPS SMALLER

Preliminary estimates place this year's world outturn of barley and oats at 137 million tons, or 7% below the large output in 1958 but 4% above the 5-year (1950-54) average, reports the Foreign Agricultural Service. Most of the reduction is in oats; however, the barley estimate is also down slightly.

EXPORTS OF MEAT AND PRODUCTS UP

U. S. exports of meat and meat products during the quarter year ended September 30 totaled almost 54 million lbs., or 34% above the corresponding period of 1958, according to the FAS. The largest increase was in pork exports, which registered a 67% gain over the year-earlier volume. The FAS points out that the upward trend in U. S. shipments of meat and meat products is expected to continue.
During the pre-Thanksgiving holiday week ended Wednesday, November 25, the two major Texas commercial broiler markets opened steady to fully steady, with south Texas remaining steady while east Texas became unsettled, reports the State Department of Agriculture. Supplies were adequate, but the demand was very limited because of the holiday demand for hens and turkeys. Wednesday prices of broilers were 15¢ per lb. in south Texas; however, trading in east Texas was too light to determine market conditions. During the corresponding period in 1958, closing prices were 16¢ in south Texas and 15¢ in east Texas.

No sale was held at the Southwest Poultry Exchange on Friday, November 27.

On Monday, November 30, commercial broiler markets were steady in south Texas and slightly stronger in east Texas. Quotations were 15¢ in south Texas and 14¢ to 15¢ in east Texas, although 65% of the sales in the latter area were at undetermined levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Week ended November 21, 1959</th>
<th>Percentage change from Previous week</th>
<th>Comparable week, 1958</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Texas......</td>
<td>1,607,000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Louisiana..</td>
<td>302,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 states..</td>
<td>26,990,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIVE STOCK

Cattle receipts at Fort Worth during the 3-day preholiday week ended Wednesday, November 25, totaled an estimated 5,000, or about the same as the previous week's limited 4-day supplies but 32% more than a year earlier, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service. Trading was seasonally slow, and closing prices were generally 50¢ per cwt. lower than in the latter part of the preceding week. Good and Choice 780- to 1,165-lb. slaughter steers were quoted at $24 to $24.50; Utility and Commercial cows, mostly $14 to $16; and Medium and Good 550- to 675-lb. yearling stocker steers, $20 to $23.

The calf run was approximately 2,200, compared with 1,800 a week ago and 1,300 during the corresponding period last year. Trading on slaughter calves was a little less active than in the previous week, and the selling level was fully steady to strong. High-Good and Choice killing calves brought $23 to $25, and Medium and Good stocker and feeder steer calves cleared at $23 to $27.

Hog offerings of 1,600 were 100 fewer than a week earlier but about the same as a year ago. Prices of butcher hogs were 25¢ to 50¢ higher than in the latter part of the preceding week. The majority of the mixed U. S. No. 1 through No. 3 Grades of 190- to 245-lb. barrows and gilts sold at $12.50 to $13.

A total of 6,500 sheep and lambs was received at Fort Worth during the week ended Wednesday, November 25, or more than double the marketings of both a week ago and the comparable period in 1958. Trading on slaughter lambs was generally slow, and quotations were steady to 50¢ lower than in the latter part of the previous week. Good and Choice 82- to 97-lb. shorn slaughter lambs with No. 1 and No. 2 pelts brought $17 to $17.50.

J. Z. Rowe
Agricultural Economist